



GARY M. MCKELLAR, DESERET NEWS

Brent Ivie rides down 400 South in Salt Lake City. The horseback relay was 30 minutes ahead of schedule when it turned onto State Street.

Pony Express riders gallop through Utah

**1993 re-enactment is 1st
along official trail. 65
Utahns get to take a turn.**

By Lynn Arave

Deseret News staff writer

Thurs
6-17-93

The Pony Express galloped 260 miles through Utah on Wednesday in the 15th annual re-enactment of the original 1,966-mile horseback relay that transported mail between St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif., during 1860 and 1861.

Fred Abernethy, Utah Pony Express president, said this year's re-ride was especially significant

because it was the first along the officially designated trail. In August 1992, Congress and President Bush signed legislation adding the Pony Express and California trails to the National Historic Trails System.

"It's as close as we can come to the original trail," Abernethy said, explaining that today's route, followed every June, must follow existing roads and has to avoid some private property.

The Pony Express entered Utah at the Wyoming line, near I-80, arrived in Salt Lake City just after 10 a.m. Wednesday near This is the Place Monument, came down 400 South and turned on State Street at

10:35 a.m. — almost 30 minutes ahead of schedule.

Each rider in Salt Lake City had an escort of six police motorcycles and two sheriff's cars. Sirens stopped traffic at each intersection, green light or not. About the only thing missing was a banner to identify the group as Pony Express riders; many spectators weren't sure what they were watching.

The Pony Express ride continued to Murray Park and then eventually west to Ibapah, near the Nevada border, where riders from that state took over. The riders go nonstop, despite nightfall and weather conditions. Abernethy

said 27 hours or less was the goal for crossing Utah, and the goal was easily surpassed.

Riders and horses changed every two miles along the route. Abernethy said this gave horse and rider plenty of rest and accommodated everyone desiring a turn as an express rider. It also helped keep the riding group together.

In Utah, 65 riders were used, and no one rode more than four miles total along the route. Utah's riders were split into three groups, which each covered a third of the state.

Please see **RIDERS** *on A2*

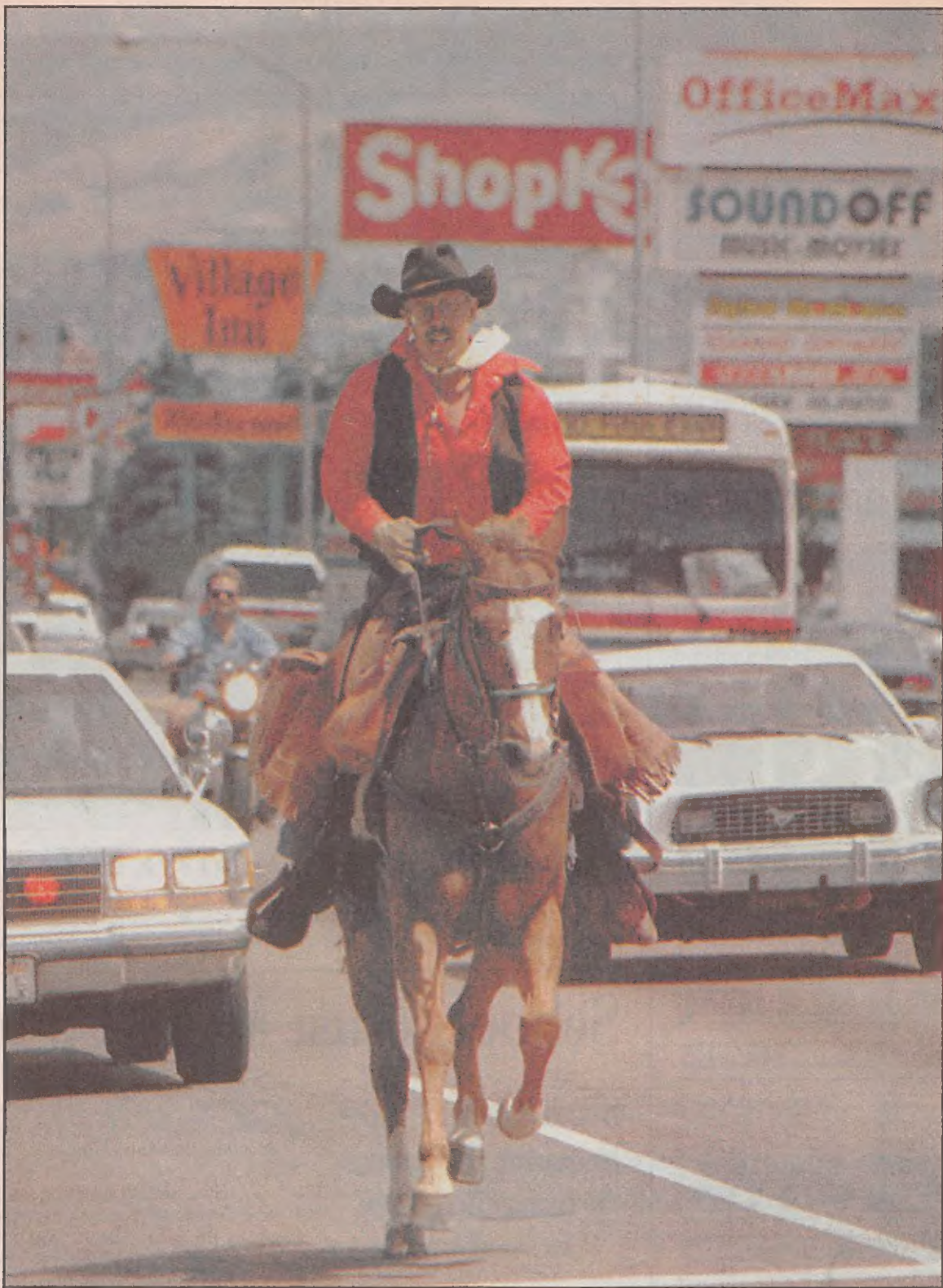
RIDERS

Continued from A1

Abernethy said another purpose of the Pony Express ride is to provide the riders and public with a feel for what the mail system was like during the 18 months the Pony Express operated, until the telegraph put it out of business.

However, unlike the original riders, some of today's Pony Express are females. Abernethy said Utah had 10 women riders this year. Original express riders were 23-24 years old, but today's riders are usually much older.

Abernethy also hopes the recent legislation designating the trail as part of the historic trails system eventually will lead to the route being better marked with signs and displays.



URBAN COWBOY

Steve Griffin/The Salt Lake Tribune

Steve Babbel of Riverton rides the Pony Express Trail, which just happens to follow Salt Lake's State Street near 6000 South for a spell. Utah riders helped retrace the route — from St. Joseph, Mo., to Sacramento, Calif. — by scooping up the mail pouch at the Wyoming border at 3 a.m. Wednesday. They planned to hand it off to a Nevada rider this morning.

Michael Quinn,
no taught at

s to protests
BYU fired
the Bible as

greater. They risk being expelled. It's amazing to me because in the last two decades BYU and the [LDS] church have increasingly emphasized conformity."

BYU President Rex E. Lee denies politics played any role in the professors' dismissal. He said they were evaluated on

arged the university to reverse its decisions. BYU's Ad-Hoc Committee on Academic Freedom was formed two years ago to review drafts of the university's new faculty-behavior guidelines.

On Wednesday, the group issued a statement comparing Ms. Farr's scholarship and teaching credentials to members

Compiled by Tom Baldwin

UTA
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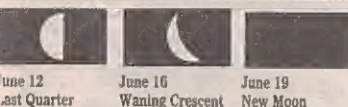
ERN UTAH TODAY

likely today but chances will be decreasing. There will be a lessening of cloudiness, and evening showers also will decrease. The measurable rain at Salt Lake City are 70% tonight. An intense upper-level, low-pressure will cross Utah today. This low will linger through Friday.

ERN UTAH TODAY

of an intense upper-level, low-pressure in Utah today will bring widely scattered and much cooler air. The extreme south regions will see scattered showers and Strong gusty winds and hail possible. Rain today in the southwestern portion of the state. Chance of rain in Cedar City today is 40%.

PHASES



SAT.	SUN.	MON.
80s	80s	90s
55	55	55

SAT.	SUN.	MON.
90s	90s	90s
50s	50s	50s

SAT.	SUN.	MON.
90s	90s	90s
50s	50s	50s



MONSTER LOCOMOTIVE CHUGS IN

The world's largest operating steam locomotive, Union Pacific Class oil-burner, pulls into depot at 400 W. South Temple Wednesday. Cheyenne, Wyo. Million-pound monster can be seen at the depot.

Schools Must Make Up for

Board Tightens Rules Requiring 990 Hours Of Instruction Time

By Samuel A. Autman
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

January's record-setting snowfall forced eleven school districts to cancel classes for up to three days because of hazardous roads.

The Utah State School Board granted those districts variances so they did not have to make up the days. But after July 1 that

president of the Box Elder School District. "I hope we don't get down to [counting] the number of minutes."

At this week's meeting in Logan, the State School Board granted the Box Elder School District a variance because students at Bear River High missed school May 2 due to a power outage. That will be the last one in the state.

Whether it be a power outage, teacher strike, school pep rally, snowy roads or sports tournaments, no additional variances will be granted, said Eileen